

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
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1. The city of Ruse now has almost 80,000 inhabitants as compared with about 60,000 in 1945.¹ The increase is principally due to the influx of country people from the surrounding villages in response to the labor shortage in Ruse.

Industrial Installations

2. The city of Ruse has about 60 industrial undertakings which are described in the following paragraphs.
3. The Georgi Dimitrov (formerly Muelhaupt) Works concentrates on the production of various agricultural machines (except combines). It also produces steel pipes, steel mill wheels, and cylinder heads for engines, and repairs diesel and steam engines. The plant has a foundry with blast furnaces making a special malleable cast iron and is well-supplied with machinery. One thousand men working in two shifts are employed in the plant, and it is intended to raise the number of employees to 5,000. Two years ago a school for lathe operators, mechanics, and foundry workers was attached to this plant.
4. The D.I.P. "Zhiti" (Dŭrzhavno Industriialno Predpriyatie "Zhiti" - State Industrial Enterprise "Zhiti")² is situated on the Byala highway about two kilometers from Ruse. Its chief products are wire, nails, wire netting, screws, and bolts for fastening rails to railroad ties. The plant also makes zinc white and red lead for the manufacture of paint and various glazes for earthenware crockery. About 500 men are employed in three shifts.
5. The Bela Piskova Works (formerly Postoyanstvo), one of the largest cotton mills in Bulgaria, is situated not far from the Georgi Dimitrov Works. There are about 500 or 600 looms in the plant, a dyeing and dressing department, but no spinning mill. The factory makes tents and khaki summer uniforms for the Army. There are about 1,000 workers employed, including 900 women. The factory operates in three shifts.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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-2-

6. The Yuta sack factory is located 200 meters from the Zhiti plant. It was originally Austrian property which was seized by the Soviets and sold to the Bulgarian Government in April 1952. A speciality of this factory is the production of canvas sacks for the Ruse sugar refinery. About 400 to 500 men are employed in three shifts.
7. The Gavril Genov Works (formerly Iskovich and Levi) are located opposite the Zhiti plant. The factory makes bakelite paints, lacquers, shoe polish, and cellulose paints, as well as boxes for their own goods. These works possess automatic machinery for the production of tin boxes, printing presses for stone and zinc plate processes, 100-ton powered rollers, a well-equipped laboratory, a repair workshop with lathes, and drilling machinery.
8. There is a large leather factory, formerly named Penko Popov, near the port on the road to Sredna Kula village (formerly Sreden Chiflik, N 43-48, E 25-57). About 500 men are employed in three shifts.
9. The Trud factory produces fireproof brick and good quality tiles.
10. There are three flour mills in Ruse:
 - a. Mitiev (former name), with 400 horsepower diesel engines;
 - b. Kalnis (former name), with 150 horsepower diesel engines; and
 - c. Shulian (former name), with 100 horsepower diesel engines.
11. Other goods made in Ruse include canned food, refined sugar, and natural silk.

Transport

12. The Traktiya railroad locomotive and car repair shops employ about 1,000 men.
13. The rails of the Sofia - Gorna Oryakhovitsa - Ruse railway line are to be replaced with 20-meter rails.
14. There are dockyards for repairing the Danube River boats and tugs on the side of the port which is open to the public.
15. In March 1952, on the eve of its relaunching ceremony, the passenger vessel VULKO CHERVENKOV, which had been sunk during World War II and later repaired at a cost of a million old leva, was set on fire by an act of sabotage. Two hundred workers were arrested as a result of this and are still in jail. Repairs on the ship have begun again.
16. There is a ferry service between Ruse and Giurgiu four or five times during the day as well as frequent crossings at night. The ferry boat has three pairs of rail tracks and can take a total of 18 railroad cars. The cars arrive empty from Rumania and return filled, generally with grain from Bulgaria.

The Ruse - Giurgiu Bridge

17. In July or August 1952, work was begun on an old project, a bridge to connect Ruse and Giurgiu. The bridge will be about two kilometers east of the sugar refinery, near the Trud brick factory and Lovdzhisky (Hunters') Park. The concrete foundations for the pillars have already been laid on both sides of the Danube. The work is being carried out under the direction of a number of Soviet experts who are accommodated in hotels, and the project offices are housed in the former Chamber of Commerce opposite the Post Office, with some additional space in the sugar refinery. Two Mann buses run a special 15-minute service for the workers.

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-3-

Hospitals

18. There are two hospitals in Ruse, an old hospital not far from the barracks of the 5 Infantry Regiment on Ulitsa Stalin, and a new one on Ulitsa Tolbukhin, near the Sveti Georgi Cinema.

Electric Power Transformer Station

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19. In 1951 a transformer station was built for the high tension current received from Rumania by an under-water cable [redacted]. The station is about three kilometers due east of the Georgi Dimitrov Works on the Lipnik Highway. Rumania supplies 2,000 kilowatts per hour at 6,000 volts. Subsidiary transformers later break this current down to 220 volts. It is planned to standardize electric current all over Bulgaria at 220 volts.

Miscellaneous

20. Opposite the barracks of the 5 Infantry Regiment there is a technical trade school with sections for general engineering, electrical engineering, and flour-mill construction.
21. All air raid shelters in Ruse were cleaned and refitted in the summer of 1951.

Personalities

22. The following personalities in Ruse [redacted] 25X1
- a. (fnu) Eisner, manager of State stores in Ruse, [redacted] 25X1
- b. (fnu) Kazandzhiev, manager of the Georgi Dimitrov factory, [redacted] 25X1
- c. Miko Nisimov, manager of the Bela Piskova textile combine, [redacted] 25X1
and
- d. Vili Schvarz, Trade Union manager in Ruse, [redacted] 25X1

Comments:

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1. Resultats Preliminaires de Recensement de la Population au 31 Decembre 1946 (Sofia 1947) gives the 1946 population of the city of Ruse as 53,420.
2. [redacted] the name "Zhiti" is derived from Zhelezna Telena Industriia (Iron and Wire Industry). 25X1

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